

Child Fatality Review Newsletter

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November 19, 2011

13th Annual International Survivors of Suicide Day

Survivors of suicide loss gather at hundreds of simultaneous healing conferences around the world every year to connect with others who have survived the tragedy of suicide loss, and express and understand the powerful emotions they experience.

- Every 40 seconds someone in the World dies by suicide.
- Every 41 seconds someone is left to make sense of it.
- Resource and Healing Guide is designed to help survivors navigate the experience of losing a loved one to suicide.

Download the guide free at:

http://www.afsp.org/index.cfm?useaction=home.viewPage&page_ID=FF28788F-FD0B-9D41-A8F05E48756F1554

Guides to Effective Reviews : The goal of Child Death Review is to understand why children die and to take action to prevent other deaths.

Using the Guides:

These guides can be used as you review specific causes of child deaths. Use the guides to help determine what records should be brought to your meeting, what risk factors to evaluate, the types of services your team should ensure are provided, and evidence based prevention activities your team may consider.

Effective review team meetings require team members to:

- Come prepared with information on the deaths to be reviewed
- Share their information openly and honestly
- Seek solutions instead of blame

At each case review, members should seek to answer:

- Is the investigation complete, or should we recommend further investigation? If so, what more do we need to know? Do we need to discuss it at our next meeting?
- Are there services we should provide to family members, other children and other persons in the community as a result of this death?
- Could this death have been prevented and if so, what risk factors were involved in this child's death?
- What changes in behaviors, technologies, agency systems and/or laws could minimize these risk factors and prevent another death?
- What are our best recommendations for helping to make these changes?
- Who should take the lead in implementing our recommendations?
- Is our review of this case complete or do we need to discuss it at our next meeting?



- Preterm birth is the leading cause of newborn death in the United States.
- In the United States, 1 in 8 babies is born prematurely.
- Worldwide, 13 million babies are born too soon each year.

What we know about prematurity...

Today more than 1,400 babies in the United States (1 in 8) will be born prematurely. Many will be too small and too sick to go home. Instead, they face weeks or even months in the newborn intensive care unit (NICU). These babies face an increased risk of serious medical complications and death; however, most, eventually, will go home.

Although doctors have made tremendous advances in caring for babies born too small and too soon, we need to find out how to prevent preterm birth from happening in the first place. Despite decades of research, scientists have not yet developed effective ways to help prevent premature delivery.

In fact, the rate of premature birth increased by more than 20 percent between 1990 and 2006. This trend and the dynamics underlying it underscore the critical importance and timeliness of the March of Dimes Prematurity Campaign. The rate fell to 12.3 percent in 2008 from 12.7 in 2007, a small but statistically significant decrease.

Highlight of the Month

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) released an updated recommendation policy statement-

SIDS and Other Sleep-Related Infant Deaths:
Expansion of Recommendations for a Safe Infant
Sleeping Environment

More information can be found at:

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2011/10/12/peds.2011-2284.full.pdf+html>

Please send suggestions or articles that you would like to see included in the newsletter. We welcome the chance to highlight your activities, overviews of your program, local team achievements, projects that have come from local reviews, etc.

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